

Appl. No. : 10/573,437
Filed : March 24, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 8- 13 have been amended. The amendments are fully supported by the specification and no new matter has been added. In addition, as described below, the specification and drawings have been amended as well. These amendments do not introduce any new matter. Claims 8-14 are pending in the application and are presented for further consideration in view of the following.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification for lacking certain headings and for referencing the claims in the body of the specification. Applicant has amended the specification to include the requested section headings. In addition, Applicant has amended the specification to recite the language of originally filed Claim 1 where the specification previously only referenced the claim. In view of the amendments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections to the specification.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the shading of explosive element 9 in Figure 1. Applicant has provided herein a replacement sheet with a clarified representation of the explosive charge. Applicant respectfully submits that the replacement sheet complies with the requirements for drawings and requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

Rejections of the Claims

The Examiner rejected Claims 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner alleged, inter alia, that several claim terms lacked antecedent basis and that the recitations of diameters were contradictory. Applicant has amended Claims 8-11 and 13. In particular, applicant has addressed the antecedent basis issues identified by the Examiner. In addition, Applicant has amended the claims with respect to the recitation of various diameters in order to increase the clarity of the claims. In particular, the piston is now variously recited as having first and second outer diameters as illustrated in Figure 1. The

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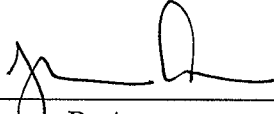
respective outer diameters have respective properties which are illustrated in Figure 1, described in the specification, and recited in the claims. Other amendments to the claims for the sake of clarity have also been made. In view of these amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 8-14 are definite and requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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By: 
Thomas R. Arno
Registration No. 40,490
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(619) 235-8550

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